



20 September 2018

Maintenance contract strengthening community partnerships

A Hunter-based disability support provider has been awarded a three year contract to maintain Hunter Water's lawns and gardens around its catchment area at Port Stephens.

Hunter Commercial Services (HCS) is a not-for-profit organisation which provides employment to people living with a disability across the region.

The contract involves work such as mowing, weed control and tree pruning at various sites, including publicly accessible areas at Grahamstown Dam, Balickera Park and Seaham Park, as well as around Hunter Water's operational assets at Tomago, Anna Bay and Nelson Bay.

Hunter Commercial Services CEO Mike Coddington welcomed the partnership with Hunter Water.

"For more than 30 years, we've been providing people living with a disability the chance to live and work as valued members of our community. We're grateful for this latest contract with Hunter Water, which will support the employment of 35 people.

"Whether it be ground maintenance, cleaning or graffiti removal, it is through work opportunities that we're able to empower our employees with the training and skills they need to live independently," said Mr Coddington.

Hunter Water Executive Manager Corporate and Legal Peter Kembrey said the utility looked forward to working closely with Hunter Commercial Services over the coming years.

"Maintaining the lawns and gardens across the Port Stephens catchment area will provide tremendous value, both to Hunter Water and the broader community, by ensuring our sites are tidy, safe and accessible.

"We really value working alongside community organisations like Hunter Commercial Services and are pleased to be able to help support the employment of people living with a disability.

"We look forward to the continuation of an already positive working relationship over the next three years," said Mr Kembrey.